## Geocaching session gives Wis. cadets lessons in GPS, compass use

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WISCONSIN – Eau Claire Composite Squadron cadets combined fun with learning recently by devoting an evening to learning some of the fine points of GPS and compass use through geocaching.

Geocaching is a popular treasure hunting game in which participants use a GPS to seek containers that others have hidden in a city, park or other area.



The Eau Claire Composite Squadron's deputy commander for cadets, 2nd Lt. Matthew Hooper, discusses geocaching with cadets amid the shadows of evening.

As the cadets searched for numerous containers in a local park known as a geocaching site, they absorbed lessons on the importance of teamwork, compass and GPS use, as well as skills that could be drawn on during an emergency services mission, such as a line search.

Wearing their 24-hour packs and BDUs as they hiked the coordinates provided them, the cadets got a feel for how a search for a missing person or aircraft might proceed.

The activity was led by 2nd Lt. Matthew Hooper, the squadron's deputy commander of cadets, as well as Cadet 2nd Lt. Annaka Fischer. On point as navigator was Cadet Senior Airman Alexander Kamstra.

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